

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PEKING 00422 160250Z POSS DUPE  
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10  
NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 SP-02 /036 W  
-----033766 170303Z /15  
R 160236Z FEB 78  
FM USLO PEKING  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9900  
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: CH US  
SUBJ: PEOPLE'S DAILY PRAISES EDGAR SNOW

1. PEOPLE'S DAILY FEBRUARY 15 CARRIES AN ALMOST FULL-PAGE ARTICLE COMMEMORATING THE SIXTH ANNIVERSARY OF EDGAR SNOW'S DEATH. EXCERPTS FROM THE ARTICLE WERE ALSO BROADCAST ON PEKING'S CENTRAL NEWS PROGRAM. THE BULK OF THE ARTICLE, AUTHORED BY THE PSEUDONYMOUS CHIANG SHAN, IS DEVOTED TO AN ACCOUNT OF SNOW'S CONTACTS WITH CHAIRMAN MAO FIRST IN YENAN AND LATER IN PEKING, AND TO FULSOME PRAISE OF SNOW'S EFFORTS TO FOSTER FRIENDLY SINO-AMERICAN RELATIONS. ALTHOUGH SNOW'S LIFETIME DEVOTION TO CHINA WAS EXCEPTIONAL, HE WAS ONLY "ONE OF THE MILLIONS OF COMMON AMERICANS WHO UPHOLD JUSTICE.". IN THIS RESPECT, THE ARTICLE STATES THAT "SNOW FIRMLY BELIEVED THAT THE DARK LAYER OF CLOUDS COVERING THE PACIFIC OCEAN WHICH JOINS CHINA AND AMERICA WOULD EVENTUALLY BE DISPERSED, AND THAT THE SPRINGTIME OF FRIENDLY CONTACT BETWEEN THE PEOPLES OF CHINA AND AMERICA WOULD CERTAINLY ARRIVE."

2. ASIDE FROM THESE REMINDERS OF THE DESIRABILITY OF IMPROVED SINO-AMERICAN RELATIONS, THE ARTICLE IS  
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LARGELY A PIECE OF STRAIGHTFORWARD BIOGRAPHY. ITS INTEREST LIES IN ITS PROMINENCE AND IN THE FACT THAT COMMEMORATION OF A SIXTH ANNIVERSARY IS UNUSUAL (THE FIFTH ANNIVERSARY LAST YEAR PASSED UNNOTICED). PEKING SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN LOOKING FOR AN OCCASION TO REMIND ITS PUBLIC THAT GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES HAVE LONG BEEN IN CHINA'S INTEREST

AND ENJOYED THE BLESSING OF MAO TSE-TUNG.

DEAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, FOREIGN RELATIONS, DEATHS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 feb 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978PEKING00422  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**TAGS:** SOPN, PEPR, CH, US, (SNOW, EDGAR)  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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